

3. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the mixing time is 1 to 60 minutes, preferably 5 to 20 minutes.

4 (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the catalyst used is a copper catalyst or an iron catalyst.

6. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the mixing of silicon and catalyst takes place at a temperature of from 100 to 400°C, preferably at 130 to 350°C.

7. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the mixing of silicon and catalyst takes place in the presence of hydrogen.

8. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the reaction is carried out at a pressure of from 1 to 40 bar (absolute).

9. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the reaction is carried out at temperatures of from 400 to 800°C.

10. (Amended) Process for preparing silane and/or ultrapure silicon, characterized in that the starting material is trichlorosilane obtained according to Claim 1.

REMARKS

Claims 3, 4 and 6-10 have been amended to refer to only one preceding claim. Each of the dependent claims, as amended, now depends on only one preceding claim. Therefore, no additional fee is required for multiple dependency.

A marked-up version of the amended claims is provided in the attached Appendix A.